

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STOCKH 01080 011215Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /065 W

----- 070714

R 011130Z MAT 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6907

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 1080

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ILO, SW, XZ

REF: (A) STOCKHOLM 308, (B) STOCKHOLM 439 (NOTAL)

1. LOOKING WELL-TANNED, TCO PRESIDENT LENNART BODSTROM GAVE LABATT ACCOUNT OF NORDIC LABOR LEADERS RECENT VISIT TO MIAMI AS GUESTS OF AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. HE PREFACED HIS REMARKS BY REPEATING WHAT HE HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN - THAT HE AND LO PRESIDENT GUNNAR NILSSON HAD BEEN PLEASED BY WARM AND FRIENDLY RECEPTION, IN PARTICULAR BY GEORGE MEANY, AND BOTH REGARDED VISIT AS MOST SUCCESSFUL. HE SAID MEMBERS OF DELEGATION HAD SERIES OF GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS WITH AFL-CIO OFFICIALS (KIRKLAND, GOLDFINGER AND SEIDMAN) AND VICE-PRESIDENTS. EACH WAS ALSO INVITED TO PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH MEANY. TALKS REVOLVED MAINLY AROUND ILO PROBLEMS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STOCKH 01080 011215Z

2. AFL-CIO SPOKESMEN REITERATED THEIR DEEP CONCERN AND UNHAPPINESS OVER EXTENSIVE EROSION OF TRIPARTITE PRINCIPLE AND MANIPULATION OF ILO FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES BY COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS. THEY APPEALED TO NORDICS FOR SUPPORT IN EFFORT TO REVERSE THIS TREND AND SPECIFICALLY TO THROW THEIR WEIGHT BEHIND OBJECTIVE OF ELECTING NON-COMMUNISTS AS NEXT CHAIRMEN OF GOVERNING BODY, JUNE PENARY CONFERENCE AND WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE.

3. BODSTROM SAID NORDICS EXPRESSED EQUAL DISTASTE FOR POLITICALIZATION OF ILO AND ASSURED AFL-CIO THEY WOULD BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE ON THIS SCORE. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, NORDICS INDICATED THEY ARE LESS INCLINED TO PLACE ENTIRE BLAME FOR ILO PROBLEMS ON COMMUNISTS. ALMOST EQUALLY AT FAULT, THEY FELT, ARE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WHERE TRIPARTITISM IS ALSO IN MOST CASES A MYTH AND WHICH ALSO USE ILO AS POLITICAL FORUM. THEY SUGGESTED AS WELL THAT THIRD WORLD GROUP IS MUCH LESS SUBMISSIVE TO COMMUNIST BLOC MANIPULATION THAN AFL-CIO SEEMS TO BELIEVE. POINT THEY TRIED TO MAKE, BODSTROM SEEMED TO BE SAYING, IS THAT AFL-CIO IS PROBABLY OVERSIMPLIFYING ILO DIFFICULTIES BY FOCUSING SO HEAVILY ON SOVIET SINS. IN ANY CASE, BODSTROM SAID, HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES OFFERED TO REMAIN IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH AFL-CIO REPS BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER ILO MEETINGS SO AS TO DEVELOP FLEXIBLE AND COOPERATIVE STRATEGY IN DEALING WITH ELECTIONS AND OTHER ILO MATTERS.

4. OUTLOOK FOR RETURN VISITS TO STOCKHOLM BY AMERICAN LABOR LEADERS IS UNCLEAR AT THIS STAGE, ACCORDING TO BODSTROM. HE AND NILSSON INVITED AFL-CIO TO SEND FRATERNAL DELEGATES TO JUNE CONGRESSES OF TCO AND LO, BUT THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE REPLY. OTHERWISE, MEANY SPOKE TO THEM ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SENDING DELEGATION TO STOCKHOLM IN NOVEMBER, BUT BODSTROM DID NOT KNOW WHY THIS PARTICULAR MONTH IS BEING CONSIDERED IT HAD ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED EARLIER THAT TWO OR THREE MEMBERS OF US WORKER DELEGATION WOULD DROP OFF IN STOCKHOLM EN ROUTE TO ILO CONFERENCE BUT THIS PLAN HAS APPARENTLY BEEN SCRATCHED, BODSTROM SAID, BECAUSE ENTIRE DELEGATION IS GOING TO TUNISIA. BODSTROM WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STOCKH 01080 011215Z

DISAPPOINTED OVER CANCELLATION AND OBSERVED THIS SEEMED HARDLY TO SERVE AFL-CIO INTEREST IN MAINTAINING CLOSE TOUCH ON ILO STRATEGY.

5. COMMENTS: WE THINK IT IS IMPORTANT FOR AFL-CIO TO SEND ONE OR TWO OFFICIALS TO STOCKHOLM AND OTHER NORDIC CAPITALS BEFORE ILO MEETING TO PRESERVE MOMENTUM OF

MIAMI TALKS AND RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT DISCUSS MATTER WITH
AFL-CIO OFFICIALS.
JOHNSON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, INVITATIONS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STOCKH01080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760077-0651
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197603111/aaaaggmvtel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STOCKHOLM 308, 76 STOCKHOLM 439
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970923
Subject: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, SW, US, XZ, AFL-CIO, ILO, (BODSTROM, LENNART)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006